

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PEACEKEEPING GUIDELINES NEGOTIATIONS

REF: USUN 1055

1. SUBJECT TO COMMENTS BELOW, WE CONCUR GENERALLY WITH
MISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WORDING OF REMAINING EIGHT
GUIDELINES THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY PEACEKEEPING
COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP DURING NEXT THREE WEEKS. SOME
POSSIBLE VARIATIONS FOR THESE GUIDELINES ARE DISCUSSED IN
PARA 4 BELOW, FOLLOWED BY OUR COMMENTS ON THE REMAINING
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PROBLEMS RELATING TO ARTICLE 1.

2. IT MAY FIRST BE USEFUL TO OUTLINE OUR GENERAL APPROACH
TO THIS YEAR'S PEACEKEEPING NEGOTIATIONS. FOLLOWING
UNEXPECTED SOVIET CONCESSIONS LAST FALL ON SOME MAJOR
ISSUES (NOTABLY AGREEMENT TO A CONSULTATIVE, RATHER THAN
EXECUTIVE, SUBSIDIARY SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE,) THERE

WOULD APPEAR TO BE A REASONABLE CHANCE OF CONCLUDING NEGOTIATIONS THIS YEAR ON TERMS ACCEPTABLE TO US. THE NEXT QUESTION IS WHETHER AGREED GUIDELINES ARE IN THE US INTEREST. CURRENT UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS ARE EFFECTIVELY RUN WITH NO GUIDELINES OTHER THAN THEIR INDIVIDUAL MANDATES APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND IT IS ARGUABLE THAT AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS ARE PREFERABLE TO PRINCIPLES WHICH COULD RESTRICT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S

LATITUDE. IF THERE WERE NO UN PEACEKEEPING COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING GUIDELINES, THIS ARGUMENT WOULD BE COMPELLING. AS IT IS, THE COMMITTEE EXISTS AND, AS WE LEARNED TWO YEARS AGO, CANNOT BE DISSOLVED. THE NON-ALIGNED HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN GUIDELINES BEFORE AGREEING TO DISSOLVE OR SLOW DOWN THE COMMITTEE, AND THEIR THRUST WOULD BE ON TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY FROM THE COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE NON-ALIGNED CANNOT CONTROL THE COUNCIL (EVEN IF THEY COULD ASSERT CONTROL OVER THE PEACEKEEPING COMMITTEE), AND GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE UNGA BUT NOT SUPPORTED BY SC WOULD BE OF UNCERTAIN EFFECT AND EFFECTIVENESS. THE MAIN CONSIDERATION IS PERMITTING AND PROMOTING EFFECTIVE PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, APPROPRIATELY CONTROLLED.

3. THERE ARE SEVERAL ADDITIONAL REASONS WHY AGREEMENT THIS YEAR IS DESIRABLE IF IT CAN BE REACHED WITHOUT MATERIALLY RESTRICTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S AUTHORITY. (IN THIS REGARD, URQUHART
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AND SHERRY OF SECRETARIAT, WHILE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE EXERCISE, SEE NO THREAT TO THE EFFECTIVE CONDUCT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN EITHER THE GUIDELINES THAT HAVE BEEN AGREED OR IN THOSE LIKELY TO EMERGE.) OTHER ADVANTAGES THAT WE SEE TO COMPLETING GUIDELINES ARE: A) DEMONSTRATING TO THE USSR OUR WILLINGNESS TO WORK TOWARDS AGREEMENT IN AREAS WHERE OUR INTERESTS ARE NOT INCONSISTENT OR WHERE IRRITANTS TO IMPROVED RELATIONS CAN BE REMOVED, PARTICULARLY IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET CONCESSIONS; B) GIVING A PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST TO UN PEACEKEEPING BY TERMINATING - AT LEAST SYMBOLICALLY - THE PROTRACTED COLD WAR DISPUTE OVER PEACEKEEPING AUTHORITY; AND C) THROUGH GA ENDORSEMENT, ENHANCING THE STATUS OF A DIVISION OF AUTHORITY BETWEEN THE SC AND SYG THAT WILL BE, WE HOPE, BOTH WORKABLE AND IN OUR INTEREST.

4. SPECIFIC COMMENTS FOLLOW ON POSSIBLE LANGUAGE FOR EIGHT UNAGREED ARTICLES:

A) ARTICLE 5: AGREE WITH MISSION THAT BROADENED LANGUAGE SHOULD REMAIN IF POSSIBLE; HOWEVER ITS OMISSION WOULD NOT PRECLUDE INVITING SYG TO ADDRESS A MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE IF THAT WERE CONSIDERED USEFUL.

B) ARTICLE 6: THIS ARTICLE, ON THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF SYG, IS THE MOST IMPORTANT UNRESOLVED GUIDELINE. AGREEMENT IS LIKELY TO STAND OR FALL ON WHETHER AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION CAN BE DEVELOPED. PRESENT SOVIET LANGUAGE (OPTION 2 IN A/31/337) IS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE. WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH USUN'S REFORMULATION OF OPTION 3, EXCEPT THAT WE QUESTION WHETHER INCLUSION OF THE "COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF" CONCEPT ADDS ANYTHING OR IS REALLY DESCRIPTIVE OF THE SYG'S ROLE. MORE IMPORTANT, IN OUR VIEW, IS AN UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT THAT THE SYG "DIRECTS" PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SC. IN LIGHT OF ARTICLE 1(8), WHICH STATES THAT ONE

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SC RESPONSIBILITY IS "ULTIMATE DIRECTION AND CONTROL DURING THE OPERATION", IT WOULD SEEM USEFUL TO STATE EXPLICITLY THAT THE SYG "DIRECTS" OPERATIONS, I.E., HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMMEDIATE, DAY-TO-DAY DIRECTION AND CONTROL. THUS, WHILE WE FIND OPTION 1 OF ARTICLE 6 ACCEPTABLE AS IT STANDS, WE WOULD PREFER TO CONCLUDE THE FIRST SENTENCE WITH "THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHALL DIRECT UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS," INSTEAD OF "...SHALL BE THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF...."

C) ARTICLE 7: AGREE THAT OPTION 2 IS ACCEPTABLE, PREFERABLY WITH "FOR THAT PURPOSE" DELETED.

D) ARTICLE 8: OPTION 1 IS UNACCEPTABLE. OPTION 2 WOULD BE PREFERABLE WITH THE SECOND BRACKETED PHRASE, "WITH THE CONSENT," AS THIS COULD BE CONSTRUED AS FAILURE TO OBJECT OR REACT TO SYG'S REPORT TO SC THAT HE PLANS TO DESIGNATE A CERTAIN COMMANDER AND, AS USUN NOTES, THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT PRACTICE.

E) ARTICLE 9: IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ADD "IMPARTIALITY" OR "OBJECTIVITY" AS ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS OF PEACEKEEPING. THIS COULD BE DONE IN EITHER THE FIRST OR THIRD OPTIONS, THOUGH THE FIRST OPTION IS CLEARLY PREFERABLE. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FIRST AND THIRD OPTIONS IS MATERIAL. UNDER FIRST IF SC HAS TAKEN A DECISION, ARGUABLY A PEACEKEEPING OPERATION MAY ACT IN FULL ACCORD WITH IT EVEN IF A PERMANENT MEMBER BACKS OFF (AS IN CONGO). BUT OPTION 3 GIVES EXPLICIT, IF ONLY "DUE," WEIGHT TO OPINIONS OF THE PERMANENT MEMBERS AND THUS INVITES SOVIET INTERRUPTION OF ONGOING

OPERATIONS. WE ARE NOT INCLINED TO ACCEPT OPTION 3 FOR THIS REASON. OPTION 2 IS OBVIOUSLY UNACCEPTABLE. (FOR THAT MATTER, OPTION 1 WOULD BE GREATLY IMPROVED BY REWORDING FIRST SENTENCE TO READ "UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCES SHALL TO BE FULLY EFFECTIVE, MEET THREE
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ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS."

F) ARTICLE 10: OPTION 2 WAS SUBMITTED BY THE US, AND ACCORDINGLY REFLECTS OUR DOCTRINE. IT WOULD BE BETTER STILL IF "OBJECTIVITY" OR "IMPARTIALITY" COULD BE INSERTED BETWEEN "COMPETENCE" AND "INTEGRITY." OPTION 1 SHOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED AS BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION UNLESS OTHER CRITERIA FOR COMPOSITION (E.G., EFFICIENCY, OBJECTIVITY)

ARE INCLUDED IN ADDITION TO "BALANCED GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION."

G) ARTICLES 11-13: CONCUR FULLY WITH MISSION'S VIEWS. WE ASSUME, IN ARTICLE 11, THAT PHRASE "WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL MAY DECIDE" WILL BE OMITTED. ALSO SUGGEST IN DISCUSSING ARTICLE 11 THAT YOU POINTED OUT THAT ARTICLE 1(5) IS INCONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 11'S DESCRIPTION OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT ARTICLE 1 (5) MIGHT BETTER READ "RECOMMENDED FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS." IN ARTICLE 12, OPTION 2, WE PREFER TO OMIT PHRASE REFERRING TO SC.

5. AS FOR ARTICLE I, WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO RETAIN THE BRACKETS AROUND THE INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE UNTIL FURTHER AGREEMENT IS REACHED. OUR POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF THAT SENTENCE (OR A VARIANT OF IT) IS PROBABLY THE BEST LEVERAGE WE HAVE TO DEVELOP AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION FOR ARTICLE VI. FYI OUR PREFERRED RENDERING OF ARTICLE I IS: "THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS PRIMARY AUTHORITY OVER THE AUTHORIZATION, ULTIMATE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS." IF "PRIMARY" WERE UNOBTAINABLE, WE WOULD WISH AT LEAST TO DELETE "THE" BEFORE "AUTHORITY." END FYI FURTHERMORE, WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO ELABORATE FURTHER THE SPECIFIC SC RESPONSIBILITIES SET FORTH IN ARTICLE I. TO DO SO WOULD TEND TO RIGIDIFY THE GUIDELINES AND, MORE IMPORTANT,
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CREATE AN IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE GENERALITY OF THE GUIDE-

LINE ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE DETAILED NATURE OF
THE SC GUIDELINE.

6. MISSION SHOULD" AS IN PAST, CONSULT WITH UK,
CANADIAN AND JAPANESE DELEGATIONS, DRAWING ON ABOVE
GENERAL AND SPECIFIC COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE. FOLLOWING
THESE DISCUSSIONS, WE WOULD WELCOME MISSION'S VIEWS AS
TO WHETHER (AND WHERE) IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONSULT
WITH USSR. BELIEVE THAT IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL ALSO TO
CONSULT USYG BUFFUM INFORMALLY, ELICITING HIS VIEWS TOWARD
OUR APPROACH BUT MAKING IT CLEAR THAT WE ARE NOT ASKING
HIM TO BECOME INVOLVED.

7. BELIEVE OUR GENERAL NEGOTIATING STRATEGY SHOULD BE TO
FURTHER AGREEMENT BUT NOT APPEAR TO BE OVERLY ANXIOUS OR
NECESSARILY COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING AGREEMENT AT THIS ROUND
UNLESS IT CAN BE OBTAINED ON BASIS OUTLINED ABOVE WITH
MINIMAL ADAPTATIONS.

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